



108

# Greatest Of All Times

*globally selected  
PERSONALITIES*

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7 Sep 1533 <::><::><::> 24 Mar 1603



Queen Elizabeth I - [www.quoteikon.com](http://www.quoteikon.com)



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# Elizabeth I of England

[https://www.worldhistory.org/timeline/Elizabeth\\_I\\_of\\_England/](https://www.worldhistory.org/timeline/Elizabeth_I_of_England/)

Elizabeth I reigned as queen of England from 1558 to 1603. Her 44-year reign was so long and packed with momentous events that the second half of the 16th century is now known as the Elizabethan era and still regarded as a 'Golden Age' for England.

## Timeline

- **7 Sep 1533**

Birth of Elizabeth, daughter of Henry VIII of England and Anne Boleyn. She is the future Elizabeth I of England.

- **17 Mar 1554**

Mary I of England detains her half-sister Princess Elizabeth (future Elizabeth I of England) in the Tower of London on suspicion of treason.

- **1556 - 1598**

Reign of Philip II of Spain.

- **1558 - 1572**

William Cecil, Lord Burghley is the Secretary of State for Elizabeth I of England.

- **1558 - 1603**

Reign of Elizabeth I of England.

- **17 Nov 1558**

Death from cancer of Mary I of England.

- **1559 - 1563**

The Elizabethan Religious Settlement, a set of acts and decisions which continue the English Reformation.

- **1559**

Elizabeth I of England introduces a new compromise Book of Common Prayer.

- **1559**

Robert Dudley is appointed Master of the Horse by Elizabeth I of England.

- **1559**

Parliament formally asks Elizabeth I of England to marry.

- **Jan 1559**

Elizabeth I of England rejects the marriage proposal of Philip II of Spain.

- **15 Jan 1559**

Coronation of Elizabeth I of England in Westminster Abbey.

- **Apr 1559**

Elizabeth I of England reinstates the Act of Supremacy.

- **May 1559**

The Act of Uniformity which bans the Mass service and sets out what the interiors of English churches should look like.

- **Jul 1559**

The Royal Injunctions - 57 regulations on Church matters which continue the English Reformation.

- **1560**

Rumours begin that Elizabeth I of England is in a relationship with Robert Dudley.

- **8 Sep 1560**

Robert Dudley's wife Amy Robsart is found dead lying at the bottom of a flight of stairs.

- **1562 - 1563**

John Hawkins' first expedition to transport slaves from West Africa to the Americas.

- **Oct 1562**

Robert Dudley is made a member of the Privy Council of Elizabeth I of England.

- **Dec 1562**

Elizabeth I of England suffers an attack of smallpox.

- **1563**

The 39 Articles define English Protestantism.

- **1563**

For a second time, Parliament formally asks Elizabeth I of England to marry.

- **1563**

Elizabeth I of England bans the production of unofficial portraits of the royal person.

- **1564 - 1565**

John Hawkins' second expedition to transport slaves from West Africa to the Americas.

- **28 Sep 1564**



Robert Dudley is made the 1st Earl of Leicester by Elizabeth I of England.

- **1567 - 1568**

John Hawkins and Francis Drake lead an expedition to transport slaves from west Africa to the Spanish West Indies. The fleet is attacked at San Juan de Ulúa.

- **May 1568**

Elizabeth I of England confines the exiled Mary, Queen of Scots.

- **14 May 1568**

Mary, Queen of Scots flees Scotland and seeks sanctuary in England.

- **1569**

There is a rebellion in the north of England against Elizabeth I of England and stirred up by the earls of Northumberland and Westmorland.

- **Feb 1570**

The Pope excommunicates Elizabeth I of England.

- **1571**

The Duke of Norfolk plots with Spain to mount an invasion of England and crown Mary, Queen of Scots the queen of England (the Ridolfi plot).

- **1572 - 1598**

William Cecil, Lord Burghley is the Lord Treasurer of Elizabeth I of England's government.

- **1572 - 1573**

Francis Drake explores Panama and seizes a Spanish silver mule train.

- **1576**

The first purpose-built and permanent theatre in England is built in London, the Theatre.

- **1576**

London receives its first playhouse, founded by James Burbage and simply known as The Theatre.

- **1576 - 1578**

Martin Frobisher explores Labrador in search of the fabled North-West Passage.

- **1577 - 1580**

Francis Drake circumnavigates the world in his ship the Golden Hind.

- **4 Apr 1581**

Elizabeth I of England knights Francis Drake after his circumnavigation of the globe.

- **1584**

The Throckmorton Plot sees a Spanish ambassador work with Mary, Queen of Scots to try and replace Elizabeth I of England.

- **1585**

Rober Dudley, 1st Earl of Leicester leads an expeditionary force to help Protestant rebels in the Netherlands.

- **1585 - 1587**

Sir Francis Drake attacks Spanish vessels and ports in the Spanish Main.

- **Apr 1585 - Jul 1585**

Settlers sail to Virginia in North America to create England's first colony on Roanoke Island.

- **1586**

The Babington Plot sees Mary, Queen of Scots embroiled in a plot with Anthony Babington to oust Elizabeth I of England.

- **1586 - 1588**

Thomas Cavendish circumnavigates the globe, only the third man to do so.

- **Jul 1586**

The Treaty of Berwick, a peace treaty, is signed between England and Scotland.

- **14 Oct 1586**

Mary, Queen of Scots is tried and, found guilty of plotting against Elizabeth I of England, is condemned to death.

- **1587**

Robert Dudley, 1st Earl of Leicester returns to the Netherlands to assist Protestant rebels there.

- **1 Feb 1587**

Elizabeth I of England signs the death warrant of Mary, Queen of Scots.

- **8 Feb 1587**

Mary, Queen of Scots, guilty of plotting against Elizabeth I of England, is executed.

- **Apr 1587**

Sir Francis Drake attacks Cadiz.

- **22 Jul 1587**

A second wave of settlers arrives to form the Roanoke Colony in Virginia, North America.

- **30 May 1588**

The Spanish Armada of Philip II of Spain leaves Lisbon.

- **Jul 1588 - Aug 1588**

The Spanish Armada of Philip II of Spain is defeated in its attempt to invade England.

- **9 Aug 1588**

Elizabeth I of England visits her land army at Tilbury which was assembled to repel the invasion of the Spanish Armada of Philip II of Spain.

- **c. 1589**

William Shakespeare writes his first play, 'Henry VI Part I'.

- **Apr 1589 - Jul 1589**

The **Drake-Norris Expedition** (aka English Armada or Don Antonio Expedition) attacks Lisbon and ships of **Philip II** of Spain. It is not successful.

- **1590**

Edmund Spenser writes his poem 'The Fairie Queen' with its central figure of 'Gloriana', identified with **Elizabeth I of England**.

- **1592**

A wave of **Black Death plague** closes all theatres in London for one year.

- **Aug 1592 - Sep 1592**

Sir **Walter Raleigh** is imprisoned in the **Tower of London** for marrying in secret a lady-in-waiting of **Elizabeth I of England**.

- **3 Aug 1592**

A fleet of English ships funded by Sir **Walter Raleigh** captures the Portuguese treasure ship, the **carrack** Madre de Deus.

- **c. 1593**

William Shakespeare writes his play 'Romeo and Juliet'.

- **Aug 1595**

**John Hawkins** and **Francis Drake** lead an unsuccessful expedition against Spanish ships and settlements in Panama and the Caribbean.

- **Jun 1596**

A large English fleet lands and captures the Spanish port of **Cadiz**.

- **1597**

Elizabeth I passes the first of her Poor Laws.

- **Aug 1598**

**William Cecil, Lord Burghley** dies.

- **1599**

Opening of the Globe **Theatre** in London.

- **31 Dec 1600**

The **East India Company** is given a charter to **trade** in **India** and the Indian Ocean by **Elizabeth I of England**.

- **1601**

**Elizabeth I of England** passes the second batch of Poor Laws.

- **24 Mar 1603**

**Elizabeth I of England**, aged 69, dies of ill health at Richmond **Palace**.

- **25 Jul 1603**

Coronation of **James VI of Scotland** as King **James I of England** in Westminster Abbey.

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## Queen Elizabeth I

<https://www.royal.uk/elizabeth-i>

**E**lizabeth I - the last Tudor monarch - was born at Greenwich on 7 September 1533, the daughter of Henry VIII and his second wife, Anne Boleyn.

Her early life was full of uncertainties, and her chances of succeeding to the throne seemed very slight once her half-brother Edward was born in 1537. She was then third in line behind her Roman Catholic half-sister, Princess Mary. Roman Catholics, indeed, always considered her illegitimate and she only narrowly escaped execution in the wake of a failed rebellion against Queen Mary in 1554.

Elizabeth succeeded to the throne on her half-sister's death in November 1558. She was very well-educated (fluent in five languages), and had inherited intelligence, determination and shrewdness from both parents.

Her 45-year reign is generally considered one of the most glorious in English history. During it a secure Church of England was established. Its doctrines were laid down in the 39 Articles of 1563, a compromise between Roman Catholicism and Protestantism.

Elizabeth herself refused to 'make windows into men's souls ... there is only one Jesus Christ and all the rest is a dispute over trifles'; she asked for outward uniformity.

Most of her subjects accepted the compromise as the basis of their faith, and her church settlement probably saved England from religious wars like those which France suffered in the second half of the 16th century.

Although autocratic and capricious, Elizabeth had astute political judgement and chose her ministers well; these included William Cecil, later Lord Burghley (Secretary of State), Sir Christopher Hatton (Lord Chancellor) and Sir Francis Walsingham (in charge of intelligence and also a Secretary of State).

Overall, Elizabeth's administration consisted of some 600 officials administering the great offices of state, and a similar number dealing with the Crown lands (which funded the administrative costs). Social and economic regulation and law and order remained in the hands of the sheriffs at local level, supported by unpaid justices of the peace.

Elizabeth's reign also saw many brave voyages of discovery, including those of Francis Drake, Walter Raleigh and Humphrey Gilbert, particularly to the Americas. These expeditions prepared England for an age of colonisation and trade expansion, which Elizabeth herself recognised by establishing the East India Company in at the very end of 1599.

The arts flourished during Elizabeth's reign. Country houses such as Longleat and Hardwick Hall were built, miniature painting reached its high point, theatres thrived - the Queen attended the first performance of Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. Composers such as William Byrd and Thomas Tallis worked in Elizabeth's court and at the Chapel Royal, St. James's Palace.

The image of Elizabeth's reign is one of triumph and success. The Queen herself was often called 'Gloriana', 'Good Queen Bess' and 'The Virgin Queen'.

Investing in expensive clothes and jewellery (to look the part, like all contemporary sovereigns), she cultivated this image by touring the country in regional visits known as 'progresses', often riding on horseback rather than by carriage. Elizabeth made at least 25 progresses during her reign.

However, Elizabeth's reign was one of considerable danger and difficulty for many, with threats of invasion from Spain through Ireland, and from France through Scotland. Much of northern England was in rebellion in 1569-70. A papal bull of 1570 specifically released Elizabeth's subjects from their allegiance, and she passed harsh laws against Roman Catholics after plots against her life were discovered.

One such plot involved Mary, Queen of Scots, who had fled to England in 1568 after her second husband, Henry, Lord Darnley's, murder and her subsequent marriage to a man believed to have been involved in his murder, James, Earl of Bothwell..



As a likely successor to Elizabeth, Mary spent 19 years as Elizabeth's prisoner because Mary was the focus for rebellion and possible assassination plots, such as the Babington Plot of 1586.

Mary was also a temptation for potential invaders such as Philip II. In a letter of 1586 to Mary, Elizabeth wrote, 'You have planned ... to take my life and ruin my kingdom ... I never proceeded so harshly against you.' Despite Elizabeth's reluctance to take drastic action, on the insistence of Parliament and her advisers, Mary was tried, found guilty and executed in 1587.

In 1588, aided by bad weather, the English navy scored a great victory over the Spanish invasion fleet of around 130 ships - the 'Armada'. The Spanish Armada was intended to overthrow the Queen and re-establish Roman Catholicism by conquest, as Philip II believed he had a claim to the English throne through his marriage to Mary.

During Elizabeth's long reign, the nation also suffered from high prices and severe economic depression, especially in the countryside, during the 1590s. The war against Spain was not very successful after the Armada had been beaten and, together with other campaigns, it was very costly.

Though she kept a tight rein on government expenditure, Elizabeth left large debts to her successor. Wars during Elizabeth's reign are estimated to have cost over £5 million (at the prices of the time) which Crown revenues could not match - in 1588, for example, Elizabeth's total annual revenue amounted to some £392,000.

Despite the combination of financial strains and prolonged war after 1588, Parliament was not summoned more often. There were only 16 sittings of the Commons during Elizabeth's reign, five of which were in the period 1588-1601. Although Elizabeth freely used her power to veto legislation, she avoided confrontation and did not attempt to define Parliament's constitutional position and rights.

Elizabeth chose never to marry. If she had chosen a foreign prince, he would have drawn England into foreign policies for his own advantages (as in her sister Mary's marriage to Philip of Spain); marrying a fellow countryman could have drawn the Queen into factional infighting. Elizabeth used her marriage prospects as a political tool in foreign and domestic policies.

However, the 'Virgin Queen' was presented as a selfless woman who sacrificed personal happiness for the good of the nation, to which she was, in essence, 'married'.

Late in her reign, she addressed Parliament in the so-called 'Golden Speech' of 1601 when she told MPs: 'There is no jewel, be it of never so high a price, which I set before this jewel; I mean your love.' She seems to have been very popular with the vast majority of her subjects.

Overall, Elizabeth's always shrewd and, when necessary, decisive leadership brought successes during a period of great danger both at home and abroad. She died at Richmond Palace on 24 March 1603, having become a legend in her lifetime. The date of her accession was a national holiday for two hundred years. James VI of Scotland was Elizabeth's successor and became James I of England.

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## Cultural Depictions

### Elizabeth I

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cultural\\_depictions\\_of\\_Elizabeth\\_I](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cultural_depictions_of_Elizabeth_I)

Elizabeth I of England has inspired artistic and cultural works for over four centuries. The following lists cover various media, enduring works of high art, and recent representations in popular culture, film and fiction. The entries represent portrayals that a reader has a reasonable chance of encountering rather than a complete catalogue.

#### Art, entertainment, and media



Allegoric representation of Elizabeth I with the goddesses Juno, Athena, and Venus/Aphrodite, by Joris Hoefnagel or Hans Eworth, ca 1569

There have been numerous notable portrayals of Queen Elizabeth in a variety of art forms, and she is the most filmed British monarch.<sup>[1][2]</sup> George MacDonald Fraser wrote "no historic figure has been represented more honestly in the cinema, or better served by her players".

#### Anime

- In the anime [\*Code Geass: Lelouch of the Rebellion\*](#), which is set in an alternate time line, Elizabeth (who remained single throughout her life even in this alternate history), bears an illegitimate son. The potential fathers—[Robert Dudley, 1st Earl of Leicester](#); [Robert Devereux, 2nd Earl of Essex](#); and Carl, Duke of Britannia—gain influence and power with this knowledge. After Elizabeth's death in 1603, the Golden Age of the Tudor dynasty begins when her son, who would become Henry IX, ascends to the throne.
- The Phantom Blood arc of [\*JoJo's Bizarre Adventure\*](#) tells the story of the fictional knights Tarkus and Bruford, who served [Mary, Queen of Scots](#). In the story, Elizabeth tricks them into accepting execution in return for Mary's safety.

## **Art**

- The [Portrait of Elizabeth I](#) glorified her during her reign and masked her age in the later portraits. Elizabeth was often painted in rich and stylised gowns. Elizabeth is sometimes shown holding a sieve, a symbol of virginity.
- The installation artwork [The Dinner Party](#) features a place setting for Elizabeth.

## **Comics**

There have been numerous depictions of Elizabeth I in satirical drawings. In actual [comic books and strips](#), her appearances include:

- [Startling Comics](#) #5 (February 1, 1941)
- [Real Life Comics](#) #2 (December 1, 1941), #12 (July 1, 1943), #25 (September 1, 1945)
- [Marvel 1602](#) #1, #2, #3
- [Afterschool Charisma](#) #1, #6, #7, #8
- [Queen Margot](#) #1, #2, #3
- [Avengers West Coast](#) #53, #61
- [House of Mystery](#) #290 (March, 1981)
- [Superman](#) #89 (May 1, 1954)
- [Rip Hunter ... Time Master](#) #24 (February 1, 1965)
- [Look and Learn](#) #34 (September 8, 1962)

## **Film**

In the cinema, Elizabeth has been portrayed by:

- [Sarah Bernhardt](#) in the French silent short [Les Amours de la reine Élisabeth](#) (1912), dramatising Elizabeth's love affair with the [Earl of Essex](#).
- [Gladys Ffolliott](#) in the British silent comedy *Old Bill Through the Ages* (1924), featuring the character [Old Bill](#) created by [Bruce Bairnsfather](#).
- [Athene Seyler](#) in [Drake of England](#) (1935).
- [Florence Eldridge](#) in [Mary of Scotland](#) (1936), an adaptation of Maxwell Anderson's play with [Katharine Hepburn](#) as [Mary, Queen of Scots](#).
- [Gwendolyn Jones](#) in [The Prince and the Pauper](#) (1937).
- [Yvette Pienne](#) in the French film [The Pearls of the Crown](#) (1937).
- [Flora Robson](#) in [Fire Over England](#) (1937) and [The Sea Hawk](#) (1940).
- [Bette Davis](#) in [The Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex](#) (1939) and [The Virgin Queen](#) (1955).
- [Maria Koppenhöfer](#) in the German film [Das Herz der Königin](#) (1940), about Mary, Queen of Scots.
- [Olga Lindo](#) in the British time travel comedy *Time Flies* (1944).
- [Jean Simmons](#) in [Young Bess](#) (1953), about her early years.
- [Agnes Moorehead](#) in [The Story of Mankind](#) (1957).



- [Irene Worth](#) in [Seven Seas to Calais](#) (1962).
- [Catherine Lacey](#) in [The Fighting Prince of Donegal](#) (1966).
- [Glenda Jackson](#) in [Mary, Queen of Scots](#) (1971), with [Vanessa Redgrave](#) as Mary.
- [Jenny Runacre](#) in [Derek Jarman's](#) film [Jubilee](#) (1977).
- [Lalla Ward](#) in [Crossed Swords](#) (1977), an adaptation of *The Prince and the Pauper*.
- [Quentin Crisp](#) in [Orlando](#) (1992).
- [Cate Blanchett](#) in [Elizabeth](#) (1998), directed by [Shekhar Kapur](#),<sup>[a]</sup> and its sequel [Elizabeth: The Golden Age](#) (2007), for both of which she was nominated for the [Academy Award for Best Actress](#).
- [Judi Dench](#) in [Shakespeare in Love](#) (1998), for which she won the [Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress](#).
- [Vanessa Redgrave](#) and [Joely Richardson](#) both play Elizabeth in the film [Anonymous](#) (2011).
- [Helen McCrory](#) in [Bill](#) (2015)
- [Margot Robbie](#) in [Mary Queen of Scots](#) (2018), with [Saoirse Ronan](#) as Mary.
- Kimberly Stockton in [Bill & Ted Face the Music](#) (2020)
- Junia Rees in [Firebrand](#) (2023)

## **Literature**

- Elizabeth's own writings, which were considerable, were collected and published by the University of Chicago Press as *Elizabeth I: Collected Works*.

## **Novels and series**

- The three-volume 1783-1785 [Gothic](#) romance novel, *The Recess*, by [Sophia Lee](#).
- Elizabeth is a character in the 1821 novel [Kenilworth](#), by [Sir Walter Scott](#).
- The 1855 historical novel set in the Elizabethan Era [Westward Ho!](#), by [Charles Kingsley](#).
- The young Elizabeth is a minor character in [Mark Twain's](#) novel [The Prince and the Pauper](#).
- [H. C. Bailey](#) wrote *The Lonely Queen* (1911), a novel revolving around Elizabeth as a young woman.
- "E. Barrington" ([L. Adams Beck](#)) wrote *Duel of the Queens* (1930), revolving around the rivalry between Elizabeth and Mary Queen of Scots.
- [Elswyth Thane Beebe](#) wrote *The Tudor Wench* (1932), a historical novel covering Elizabeth's life up to her coronation.
- [Elizabeth Goudge](#) produced *Towers in the Mist* (1938), a novel about [Oxford University](#) which features a visit from Queen Elizabeth.
- [Margaret Irwin](#) wrote the *Good Queen Bess* trilogy based on Elizabeth's youth: [Young Bess](#) (1944), *Elizabeth, Captive Princess* (1950), and *Elizabeth and the Prince of Spain* (1953).
- [Mary M. Luke](#) wrote a definitive Tudor trilogy: *Catherine the Queen* (1968), *A Crown for Elizabeth* (1970), and *Gloriana: The Years of Elizabeth I* (1973), with the latter two books focusing on Elizabeth's youth and reign.
- *All the Queen's Men* by [Evelyn Anthony](#) (1960)
- *No Great Magic* by [Fritz Leiber](#) (1963): this depicted Elizabeth as a series of time-traveling impostors.
- [Vivat! Vivat Regina!](#) by [Robert Bolt](#) (1970)
- *The Queen and the Gypsy* by [Constance Heaven](#) (1977)
- *My Enemy the Queen* by [Victoria Holt](#) (1978)
- *Queen of This Realm* by [Jean Plaidy](#) (1984)
- *Legacy* by [Susan Kay](#) (1985)
- *The Armor of Light* by [Melissa Scott](#) & [Lisa A. Barnett](#) (1988)

- *Much Suspected of Me* by [Maureen Peters](#) (1990) on the early life of Elizabeth I.
- *Proud Bess* by [Maureen Peters](#) (1990) on first years of Elizabeth's reign.
- *England's Mistress* by [Maureen Peters](#) (1991) Elizabeth Tudor has survived uncertainty and danger in order to ascend the throne vacated by the death of her fanatical half-sister Mary. She has drawn about her men such as Leicester and Cecil, her Minister of State. But her throne is menaced from across the border by the Queen of Scots.
- *I, Elizabeth* by [Rosalind Miles](#) (1994).
- *To Shield the Queen*, a series of eight books featuring Ursula Blanchard, Lady in waiting to Elizabeth, by [Fiona Buckley](#) (1997–2006).
- Elizabeth's story is told for children in *Elizabeth I: Red Rose of the House of Tudor*, a book by [Kathryn Lasky](#) in the *Royal Diaries* series published by [Scholastic](#) (1999).
- Author [Karen Harper](#) has written a mystery series about Elizabeth. Included in this series are nine fictional novels. They are: *The Poyson Garden* (2000), *The Tidal Poole* (2000), *The Twilight Tower* (2002), *The Queene's Cure* (2003), *The Thorne Maze* (2003), *The Queene's Christmas* (2004), *The Fyre Mirror* (2006), *The Fatal Fashione* (2006), and *The Hooded Hawke* (2007).
- *Beware, Princess Elizabeth* is a novel for children by [Carolyn Meyer](#) (2001).
- Author [Robin Maxwell](#) wrote three novels figuring Elizabeth: *Virgin: Prelude to the Throne* (2001); Elizabeth's story is spliced with her mother's in *The Secret Diary of Anne Boleyn*. The story of the historic Arthur Dudley, who pretended to be a son of Elizabeth and [Lord Robert Dudley](#), is embellished in *The Queen's Bastard* (1999).
- Author [Philippa Gregory](#) portrayed Elizabeth as a character in five out of her six books on the Tudors. She is seen as a baby and a child in *The Other Boleyn Girl* (2001), a child in *The Boleyn Inheritance* (2006), a young woman in *The Queen's Fool* (2003), a young queen in *The Virgin's Lover* (2004) and as an older queen in *The Other Queen* (2008).
- An alternate history novel by [Harry Turtledove](#) featuring Elizabeth is entitled [Ruled Britannia](#) was published in 2002.
- A historical fantasy of Elizabeth's life, featuring [elven guardians](#), is recounted in *This Scepter'd Isle* (2004), *Ill Met by Moonlight* (2005), and *By Slanderous Tongues* (2007) by [Mercedes Lackey](#) and [Roberta Gellis](#).
- *Queen Elizabeth I: A Children's Picture Book* by [Richard Brassey](#) (2005)
- *Queen Elizabeth I and Her Conquests* by [Margret Simpson](#) (2006)
- The 2007 book *Innocent Traitor* by [Alison Weir](#) about [Lady Jane Grey](#) features Elizabeth as a young woman.
- The 2008 book *The Lady Elizabeth* by Alison Weir features Elizabeth as a young girl from the death of her mother to her coronation and her relationships with her half siblings and her father.
- [Elizabeth Bear](#)'s Promethean Age books *Ink & Steel* and *Hell & Earth* are set in the final decade of Elizabeth's reign and feature her prominently.
- *The Princeling*, Volume 3 of [The Morland Dynasty](#), a series of historical novels by author [Cynthia Harrod-Eagles](#). The fictional Nanette Morland is her servant and mentor, having previously been a close friend, servant and confidante of Elizabeth's mother, Anne Boleyn.
- *Virgin and the Crab - Sketches, Fables and Mysteries from the Early Life of John Dee and Elizabeth Tudor*, a novel by Robert Parry (2009) speculates on the early relationship between the young Elizabeth and her 'noble intelligencer.'
- The novel *The Bones of Avalon* (2010) by [Phil Rickman](#) describes Elizabeth visiting [John Dee](#). It is also about her entourage and about a plot to undermine her reputation and power in order to prepare to have her eventually replaced by [Mary, Queen of Scots](#). John Dee as the book's hero is assigned to prevent all that.

- *Elizabeth I* (2011) by Margaret George is a novel that tracks the latter years of Elizabeth's life from 1588 until her death.
- *The Tournament* (2013) by [Matthew Reilly](#), depicts a fictional visit by a 13-year old Elizabeth to the Ottoman Empire with [Roger Ascham](#). Here Elizabeth witnesses a chess tournament, becomes involved in a murder mystery, and meets Sultan [Suleiman the Magnificent](#).
- *A Column of Fire* (2017) by [Ken Follett](#) is the last of a trilogy of books and sees the main protagonist working for Elizabeth, helping her ascend the throne and keeping her safe throughout her reign.

### **Plays**

- The birth of Elizabeth is proclaimed and her baptism is shown in scenes of [William Shakespeare's](#) play *King Henry VIII* (First Folio 1623).
- Elizabeth is a principal character in the play *Mary Stuart* (1800) by [Friedrich Schiller](#).
- Elizabeth is a principal character in *The Dark Lady of the Sonnets* by [George Bernard Shaw](#) (1910).
- Elizabeth is a principal character in the play *Elizabeth of England* by [Ferdinand Bruckner](#) (1930).
- 20th century American [Pulitzer Prize](#)-winning playwright [Maxwell Anderson](#) dramatized episodes of Elizabeth's life in two of his most popular plays, *Elizabeth the Queen* (1930), starring [Lynn Fontanne](#), and *Mary of Scotland* (1933), starring [Helen Menken](#) as Elizabeth.
- *Elizabeth Rex* (2000), by [Timothy Findley](#), starred [Diane D'Aquila](#) in 2000 and [Stephanie Barton-Farcas](#) in 2008, on Broadway
- Elizabeth appears as a featured character in the stage adaptation of *Shakespeare in Love*, adapted script by [Lee Hall](#) (2014).
- Elizabeth appears as a main character in Rosamund Gravelle's debut play *Three Queens*, and first played by Eliza Shea, before Elizabeth has ascended to the throne. Set in 1554 the play is about a fictional encounter between Queen Mary I of England, Lady Jane Grey and Princess Elizabeth, brought together by their cousin, Cardinal [Reginald Pole](#), the night before Lady Jane Grey is due to be executed.

### **Poetry**

- One of Elizabeth's nicknames was "The Faerie Queen", after [the poem in her honour](#) by Edmund Spenser.

### **Music**

- Elizabeth was praised through the music of her court during tournaments, progresses, plays, masques and other court pageantry.

### **Operas and other stage music**

- [Henry Purcell](#) wrote a [semi-opera](#), *The Fairy-Queen* (1692), an adaptation of [Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream](#). One of Elizabeth's nicknames was "The Faerie Queen", after [the poem in her honour](#) by Edmund Spenser.
- [Gioachino Rossini](#) wrote his first Neapolitan opera on the subject of Elizabeth I, *Elisabetta, regina d'Inghilterra*, in 1814–15, ultimately based on a three-volume [Gothic](#) romance novel, *The Recess*, by [Sophia Lee](#).
- Elizabeth appears in three operas by [Gaetano Donizetti](#), *Il castello di Kenilworth* (1829) after [Walter Scott](#), *Maria Stuarda* (1834), based loosely on Schiller's play; and *Roberto Devereux* (1837) about her affair with the [Earl of Essex](#).



- Elizabeth is a leading character in Ambrose Thomas' opéra comique [\*Le songe d'une nuit d'été\*](#) (1850)
- [Arthur Sullivan](#) wrote [\*The Masque at Kenilworth\*](#), depicting Robert Dudley's elaborate proposal to Elizabeth
- [Benjamin Britten](#) wrote an opera, [\*Gloriana\*](#), about the relationship between Elizabeth and Essex, composed for the 1953 coronation of [Elizabeth II](#).
- In the musical [\*The Pirate Queen\*](#), composed by [Claude-Michel Schönberg](#), an Irish chieftain, [Gráinne O'Malley](#), challenges Elizabeth I's takeover of Ireland.

### **Radio/audio dramas**

- [Judith Anderson](#) played Elizabeth in the March 10, 1937 [\*Lux Radio Theatre\*](#) adaptation of the film [\*Mary of Scotland\*](#), with [Joan Crawford](#) as Mary Stuart and [Franchot Tone](#) as Bothwell.
- On December 17, 1944, the CBS Radio series *Matinee Theater* broadcast an adaptation of [Maxwell Anderson's](#) play [\*Elizabeth the Queen\*](#) with [Judith Evelyn](#) as Elizabeth and [Victor Jory](#).
- Another adaptation of [\*Elizabeth the Queen\*](#) was broadcast on the [\*Theatre Guild on the Air\*](#) on December 2, 1945, starring [Lynn Fontanne](#) as Elizabeth.
- Another version of the [\*Mary of Scotland\*](#) play was broadcast on the [\*Theatre Guild on the Air\*](#) on April 28, 1946, starring [Helen Menken](#) as Elizabeth and [Helen Hayes](#) as Mary Stuart (both of whom had originally played their roles on Broadway).
- On June 10, 1947, the radio series [\*Favorite Story\*](#) broadcast "Mary Queen of Scots", the "favorite story" of [Bing Crosby](#), with [Benita Hume](#) as Elizabeth and [Edna Best](#) as Mary Stuart.
- Another adaptation of the Anderson play [\*Elizabeth the Queen\*](#) was broadcast on the NBC radio series *Best Plays* on November 9, 1952, with [Eva Le Gallienne](#) as Elizabeth.
- On October 11, 1953, the NBC radio series [\*Stroke of Fate\*](#) broadcast "Queen Elizabeth I" with [Judith Evelyn](#) as Elizabeth, a conjecture of what would have happened if the Earl of Essex's plot to depose Elizabeth had succeeded.
- In 2001, [CBC Radio](#) broadcast as part of The CBC Stratford Festival Reading Series an adaptation of [Timothy Findley's](#) play [\*Elizabeth Rex\*](#) with [Diane D'Aquila](#) re-creating her stage role as Elizabeth; this production was later released on CD by CBC Audio ([ISBN 978-0660185354](#)).
- [\*A Storm of Angels\*](#) (2005), a [Doctor Who audio drama](#), featured Kate Brown as the Gloriana of a parallel history.
- A radio adaptation of [Liz Lochhead's](#) play [\*Mary Queen of Scots Got Her Head Chopped Off\*](#) was broadcast on [BBC Radio 4](#) on 11 February 2011, with [Siobhan Redmond](#) as Elizabeth, [Gerda Stevenson](#) as Mary and [Myra McFadyen](#) as Corbie.
- Alexandre Mathe played Elizabeth in a 2012 [BBC Radio 3](#) adaptation by David Harrower of [Friedrich Schiller's](#) play [\*Mary Stuart\*](#).

### **Television**

On television, Elizabeth has been portrayed by:

- [Dorothy Black](#) in the [BBC](#) drama [\*The Dark Lady of the Sonnets\*](#) (1946)
- [Mildred Natwick](#) in [\*Mary of Scotland\*](#) (1951), an adaptation of Maxwell Anderson's play in the American [\*Pulitzer Prize Playhouse\*](#) series
- [Maxine Audley](#) in the BBC series [\*Kenilworth\*](#) (1957), an adaptation of Scott's novel
- [Peggy Thorpe-Bates](#) in the BBC series [\*Queen's Champion\*](#) (1958)
- [Mecha Ortiz](#) in the Argentinian drama [\*Elizabeth Is Dead\*](#) (1960), about Elizabeth's last hours
- [Jean Kent](#) in the British adventure series [\*Sir Francis Drake\*](#) (1961)

- [Katya Douglas](#) in *The Prince and the Pauper* (1962), part of the American TV series [Disneyland](#)
- [Vivienne Bennett](#) in "The Executioners" episode of the BBC series [Doctor Who](#) (1965)
- [Susan Engel](#) in the BBC series *The Queen's Traitor* (1967), about the [Ridolfi plot](#)
- [Judith Anderson](#) in *Elizabeth the Queen* (1968), an adaptation of Maxwell Anderson's play in the American series [Hallmark Hall of Fame](#) for which she was nominated for an [Emmy Award](#)
- [Gemma Jones](#) in the BBC series *Kenilworth* (1968), another adaptation of Scott's novel
- [Glenda Jackson](#) in the BBC serial drama [Elizabeth R](#) (1971), for which she won two Emmy Awards
- [Graham Chapman](#) in Episode 29 of the BBC series [Monty Python's Flying Circus](#), in a spoof of [Elizabeth R](#) titled "Elizabeth L" (1972)
- [Hattie Jacques](#) in the "Orgy and Bess" episode of the British comedy series [Carry On Laughing](#) (1975)
- [Patience Collier](#) in the [ATV](#) drama series *Life of Shakespeare* (1978)
- [Charlotte Cornwell](#) in the British drama [Drake's Venture](#) (1980), with [John Thaw](#) as [Francis Drake](#)
- [Rosalind Plowright](#) in a BBC adaptation of Donizetti's opera *Mary Stuart* (1982)
- [Sarah Walker](#) in an adaptation of Britten's opera *Gloriana* (1984)
- [Miranda Richardson](#) in the BBC comedy series [Blackadder II](#) (1986), [Blackadder's Christmas Carol](#) (1988) and the Millennium episode [Blackadder: Back & Forth](#) (2000), where she is portrayed as childish and spoiled. In the last episode of *Blackadder II* the entire supporting cast is killed by Prince Ludwig the Indestructible, who impersonates her.
- [Helen Baxendale](#) in the "An Evil Business" episode of the [Granada Television](#) drama documentary series [In Suspicious Circumstances](#) (1996), about the death of [Amy Robsart](#)
- [Josephine Barstow](#) in another adaptation of Britten's opera *Gloriana* (2000)
- [Imogen Slaughter](#) in the drama documentary *Elizabeth* (2000), in which [Karen Archer](#) played her as an older woman and [Saskia Blackwell](#) as a child
- [Tamara Hope](#) as a young Elizabeth in *Elizabeth I: Red Rose of the House of Tudor* (2000), the HBO adaptation of [The Royal Diaries](#) novel of the same name.
- [Margot Kidder](#) in the "Her Grace Under Pressure" episode of the American science fiction series [Mentors](#) (2001)
- [Diane D'Aquila](#) in the 2003 [CBC Television](#) production of [Timothy Findley's](#) play [Elizabeth Rex](#).<sup>[23]</sup>
- [Lorna Lacey](#) in the [Granada Television](#) serial [Henry VIII](#) (2003)
- [Catherine McCormack](#) in the BBC series [Gunpowder, Treason & Plot](#) (2004)
- [Anne-Marie Duff](#) in the BBC series [The Virgin Queen](#) (2005)
- [Helen Mirren](#) in the two-part w34 [Elizabeth I](#) (2005), for which she won an Emmy Award
- [Angela Pleasence](#) in the BBC sci-fi series [Doctor Who](#) in the episode "[The Shakespeare Code](#)" (2007). [Joanna Page](#) plays a younger version in the later episode "[The Day of the Doctor](#)" (2013).
- Kate Duggan (Series 2) and Claire McCauley (Series 3) in the Showtime series [The Tudors](#) (2008) as a child. Laoise Murray in Series 4 of [The Tudors](#) (2010) as a teenager.
- [Martha Howe-Douglas](#), [Louise Ford](#) and [Harrie Hayes](#) in the educational comedy sketch show [Horrible Histories](#).
- [Rachel Skarsten](#) in seasons two through four of The CW drama [Reign](#) (2015).
- [Anita Dobson](#) in the [BBC](#) three part docudrama series [Armada: 12 Days to Save England](#)

- Helen Bradbury in 2016 BBC documentary *Bloody Queens: Elizabeth and Mary*
- [Lily Cole](#) in the [Channel 5](#) docudrama series *Elizabeth I* (2017). Elizabeth is also portrayed at various ages in the series by actresses Summer Rose Alison, Sheya McAllister, and Felicity Dean.
- [Emma Thompson](#) in the [BBC](#) sitcom *Upstart Crow*'s Christmas Special (2017).
- [Julie Neupert](#) in the BBC documentary *Elizabeth I's Secret Agents* (2017).
- Rebecca Scott in *Queens: The Virgin and the Martyr*
- Rosa Blake in the "Bloody Mary Hour" (2020) episode of *El ministerio del tiempo*, where the main plot revolves around the Ministry trying to prevent her from being murdered before ever being crowned queen.
- [Barbara Marten](#) in "Episodes One and Nine, Season Three" of the [Sky One](#) drama *A Discovery of Witches*, where the lead male is a vampire who acts as a spy and advisor to her, helping carry out witch hunts (2021).
- [Alicia von Rittberg](#) plays a teenage Elizabeth in [Starz's](#) *Becoming Elizabeth* (2022).
- [Cheddar Gorgeous](#) portrayed Elizabeth I during the *Snatch Game* episode of [series 4](#) of [RuPaul's Drag Race UK](#) (2022)
- [Minnie Driver](#) in the second season of *The Serpent Queen* (2024)
- Abbie Hern portraying Elizabeth as "Bess" in *My Lady Jane* (2024)

### **Video games**

- In the popular [real time strategy video game](#) *Age of Empires III*, Queen Elizabeth is the [AI](#) personality for the [British](#) civilization.
- The queen of the video game *Anno 1701* has the same features and bears the same style dress to that of Queen Elizabeth I.
- In [Ubisoft's](#) *Assassin's Creed* series, Queen Elizabeth held one of the Golden Apple variety of the pieces of Eden during her reign.
- Elizabeth has been the leader of the English civilization in many games of [Sid Meier's](#) *Civilization* series; she is joined by [Queen Victoria](#) in *Civilization IV* and [Sir Winston Churchill](#) in the *Warlords* expansion to that game.
- In the strategy games *Europa Universalis* and *Europa Universalis II*, Queen Elizabeth appears, as with all other monarchs of the realm, at her historical time. Her diplomatic, administrative and military skills are remarkable.
- In *Uncharted 3: Drake's Deception*, modern day adventurer Nathan Drake discovers that Queen Elizabeth had sent explorer Sir [Francis Drake](#) to the lost city of Ubar to discover the supernatural properties of the Djinn, which would give her the opportunity to expand her empire and enslave the world.
- She can be seen briefly in the MMORPG game *Uncharted Waters Online* in the storyline event of England.

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## History of the Church of England

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_the\\_Church\\_of\\_England](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_the_Church_of_England)

The [Church of England](#) traces its history back to 597. That year, a group of missionaries sent by the [pope](#) and led by [Augustine of Canterbury](#) began the [Christianisation of the Anglo-Saxons](#). Augustine became the first [archbishop of Canterbury](#). Throughout the [Middle Ages](#), the English Church was a part of the [Catholic Church](#) led by the pope in Rome. Over the years, the church won many legal privileges and amassed vast wealth and property. This was often a point of contention between [Kings of England](#) and the church.

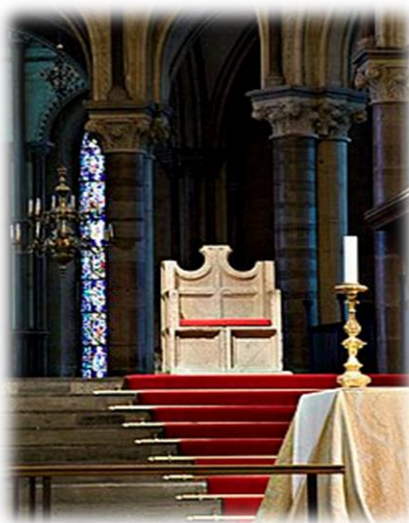


During the 16th-century [English Reformation](#), which began under [Henry VIII](#) (r. 1509–1547), papal authority was abolished in England and the king became [Supreme Head of the Church of England](#). Henry [dissolved the monasteries](#) and confiscated their assets. The church was briefly reunited with Rome during the reign of [Mary I](#) (1553–1558) but separated once again under [Elizabeth I](#) (r. 1558–1603). The [Elizabethan Religious Settlement](#) established the Church of England as a conservative [Protestant](#) church. During this time, the [Book of Common Prayer](#) was authorised as the church's official [liturgy](#) and the [Thirty-nine Articles](#) as a doctrinal statement. These continue to be important expressions of [Anglicanism](#).

The Settlement failed to end religious disputes. While most of the population gradually conformed to the [established church](#), a minority of [recusants](#) remained loyal Roman Catholics. Within the Church of England, [Puritans](#) pressed to remove what they considered [papist](#) abuses from the church's liturgy and to replace [bishops](#) with a [presbyterian system](#) in which all ministers were equal. After Elizabeth's death, the Puritans were challenged by a [high church](#), [Arminian](#) party that gained power during the reign of [Charles I](#) (1625–1649). The [English Civil War](#) and overthrow of the monarchy allowed the Puritans to pursue their reform agenda and the dismantling of the Elizabethan Settlement. After the [Restoration](#) in 1660, Puritans were forced out of the Church of England. Anglicans started defining their church as a [via media](#) or middle way between the religious extremes of Roman Catholicism and Protestantism; Arminianism and [Calvinism](#); and high church and [low church](#).

In the 1700s and 1800s, revival movements contributed to the rise of [Evangelical Anglicanism](#). In the 19th century, the [Oxford Movement](#) gave rise to [Anglo-Catholicism](#), a movement that emphasises the Church of England's Catholic heritage. As the [British Empire](#) grew, Anglican churches were established in other parts of the world. These churches consider the Church of England to be a [mother church](#), and it maintains a leading role in the [Anglican Communion](#).

For a general history of Christianity in England, see [History of Christianity in Britain](#)



Chair of Saint Augustine, the archiepiscopal throne in [Canterbury Cathedral, Kent](#)

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**St Martin's Church, Canterbury, is the oldest English church building still in use and was the private chapel of Bertha of Kent, an important figure in the Christianization of Kent.**



**English dioceses between 950 and 1035**



**The square tower of St Peter's Church, Barton-upon-Humber (c. 990) is an example of late Anglo-Saxon church architecture<sup>[15]</sup>**



**Founded in 597, Canterbury Cathedral was completely rebuilt between 1070 and 1077**



**The shrine of St Swithun in Winchester Cathedral (in the background is Fedorev's iconostasis in the retroquire)**



**King Henry VIII was responsible for the Church of England's independence from the Roman Catholic Church (portrait of King Henry by Hans Holbein the Younger, 1540)**





Thomas Cranmer (1489–1556), archbishop of Canterbury and principal compiler of the first two versions of the Book of Common Prayer



Map of English dioceses during the reign of Henry VIII. The cutout displays the boundaries of dioceses during the Anglo-Saxon period.



Matthew Parker, archbishop of Canterbury, 1559–1575



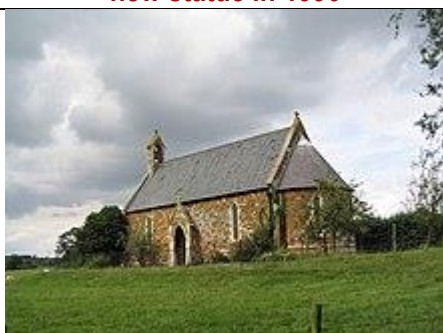
Cromwell and the corpse of Charles I



The Christchurch Gate at Canterbury Cathedral; the original statue of Christ was destroyed by Puritans in 1643 and replaced with an entirely new statue in 1990



An Anglican chapel at Sheffield Cathedral



Church at Blaston, Leicestershire, rebuilt in a simple Gothic style in 1878

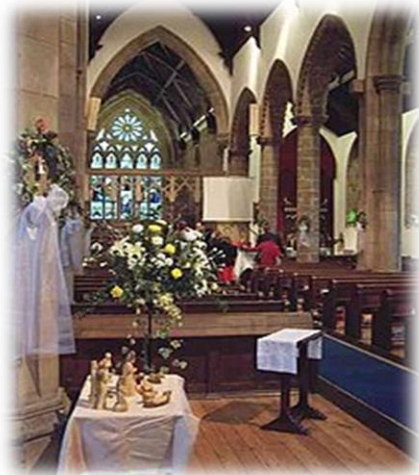


Crucifix on the rood screen at Blisland, Cornwall





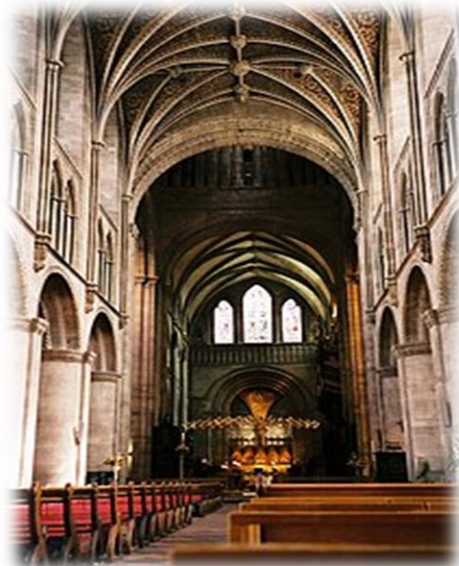
The altar in St Mary's Anglican Church, Redcliffe, Bristol: showing the effects of 20th century liturgical reform the altar stands at the east end of the nave



Ilkeston Parish Church, Derbyshire: the interior after the family communion service on Christmas Day, 2007



Canterbury Cathedral altar



Hereford is one of the church's forty-three cathedrals, many with histories stretching back many centuries



The Woburn Abbey version of the *Armada Portrait*, c. 1588



The *Ditchley Portrait*, Marcus Gheeraerts the Younger, c. 1592

# History of Christianity in Britain

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_Christianity\\_in\\_Britain](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Christianity_in_Britain)

Christianity first appeared in Britain in antiquity, during the Roman period. The Roman Catholic Church was the dominant form of Christianity in Britain from the 6th century through to the Reformation period in the Middle Ages. The (Anglican) Church of England became the independent established church in England and Wales in 1534 as a result of the English Reformation. In Wales, disestablishment took place in 1920 when the Church in Wales became independent from the Church of England. In Scotland, the (Presbyterian) Church of Scotland, established in a separate Scottish Reformation in the 16th century, is recognised as the national church, but not established.

Following the Reformation, adherence to the Catholic Church continued at various levels in different parts of Britain, especially among recusants and in the north of England. Particularly from the mid-17th century, forms of Protestant nonconformity, including Baptists, Quakers, Congregationalists, English Presbyterians and, later, Methodists, grew outside of the established church.

## Roman Britain

People in Roman Britain typically believed in a wide range of gods and goddesses, and worshipped several of them, likely selecting some local and tribal deities as well as some of the major divinities venerated across the Empire. Both indigenous British deities and introduced Roman counterparts were venerated in the region, sometimes syncretising together, as in cases like Apollo-Cunomaglus and Sulis-Minerva.

Romano-British temples were sometimes erected at locations that had earlier been cultic sites in pre-Roman Iron Age Britain. A new style of "Romano-Celtic temple" developed, influenced by both Iron Age and imperial Roman architectural styles but distinct from both; buildings in this style remained in use until the 4th century. The cults of various eastern deities had also been introduced to Roman Britain, among them Isis, Mithras, and Cybele; Christianity was one of these eastern cults. The archaeologist Martin Henig suggested that to "sense something of the spiritual environment of Christianity at this time", one could compare it to modern India, where Hinduism, "a major polytheistic system", remains dominant, and "where churches containing images of Christ and the Virgin are in a tiny minority against the many temples of gods and goddesses".



The Church of St Martin in Canterbury is the oldest extant church building in Britain still in use as a church. It is the oldest Anglican parish church.



# Elizabethan Religious Settlement

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elizabethan\\_Religious\\_Settlement](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elizabethan_Religious_Settlement)

The **Elizabethan Religious Settlement** is the name given to the religious and political arrangements made for [England](#) during the reign of [Elizabeth I](#) (1558–1603). The settlement, implemented from 1559 to 1563, marked the end of the [English Reformation](#). It permanently shaped the Church of England's [doctrine](#) and [liturgy](#), laying the foundation for the unique identity of [Anglicanism](#).

When Elizabeth inherited the throne, England was bitterly divided between [Catholics](#) and [Protestants](#) as a result of various religious changes initiated by [Henry VIII](#), [Edward VI](#) and [Mary I](#). Henry VIII had broken from the [Catholic Church](#) and the authority of the [Pope](#), becoming the [supreme head of the Church of England](#). During Edward's reign, the Church of England adopted a [Reformed](#) theology and liturgy. In Mary's reign, these religious policies were reversed, England was re-united with the Catholic Church and Protestantism was suppressed.

The Elizabethan Settlement was an attempt to end this religious turmoil. The [Act of Supremacy of 1558](#) re-established the Church of England's independence from Rome. [Parliament](#) conferred on Elizabeth the title of [Supreme Governor of the Church of England](#). The [Act of Uniformity 1558](#) re-introduced the [Book of Common Prayer](#), which contained the liturgical services of the church. Some modifications were made to appeal to Catholics and [Lutherans](#), including giving individuals greater latitude concerning belief in the [real presence of Christ in the Eucharist](#) and permission to use traditional priestly [vestments](#). In 1571, the [Convocations of Canterbury and York](#) adopted the [Thirty-Nine Articles](#) as a confessional statement for the church, and a [Book of Homilies](#) was issued outlining the church's reformed theology in greater detail.

The settlement failed to end religious disputes. While most people conformed, a minority of [recusants](#) remained loyal Catholics. Within the Church of England, a [Calvinist](#) consensus developed among leading churchmen. Calvinists split between conformists and [Puritans](#), who wanted to abolish what they considered [papist](#) abuses and replace [episcopacy](#) with a [presbyterian](#) church government. After Elizabeth's death, a [high church](#), [Arminian](#) party gained power in the reign of [Charles I](#) and challenged the Puritans.

The [English Civil War](#) (1642–1651) and the overthrow of the monarchy allowed the Puritans to pursue their reform agenda, including dismantling the Elizabethan Settlement. The [Restoration](#) in 1660 reestablished both the monarchy and the religious settlement, but the Puritans were forced out of the Church of England. Anglicans now defined their church as a [via media](#) or middle way between the religious extremes of Catholicism and Protestantism; Arminianism and Calvinism; and high church and [low church](#).



# Convocation of 1563

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convocation\\_of\\_1563](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convocation_of_1563)

The **Convocation of 1563** was a significant gathering of English and Welsh clerics that consolidated the [Elizabethan religious settlement](#), and brought the [Thirty-Nine Articles](#) close to their final form (which dates from 1571). It was, more accurately, the Convocation of 1562/3 of the [province of Canterbury](#), beginning in January 1562 ([Old Style](#)).

## Summary

[Matthew Parker](#) who was [Archbishop of Canterbury](#) had prepared documents outlining further reform in the [Church of England](#), as had other bishops. A more thorough-going reform agenda was supported by over 30 of the participants. A compromise version, the "six articles", was narrowly defeated on a vote. The result was that the momentum for reform of the Church by its constitutional procedures was halted. Parker steered the outcome towards the [via media](#). "Swiss-inspired reformists" were headed off.

The Convocation restored the position of the *Thirty-Nine Articles* in the Church of England. More accurately said, the *Forty-Two Articles* of Edward VI were reduced to a draft at this point, which was widely supported, and eventually enforced after 1571. There were further proposals from reformers, in particular on [canon law](#) and [liturgy](#), some of which originated from a group among the bishops. These, however, proved contentious, and did not pass. Subsequent contestation of the same issues made some of them a matter of authority.

## Collinson comments that

*Moves to improve the settlement in the convocation of 1563 were led by the bishops rather than by 'Puritans' in the lower house [...] <sup>[4]</sup>*

Dawley writes that probably the surprise of the Convocation

*[...] was not the amount of support given to the Precisians but the unexpected extent of loyalty to the existing regulations,*

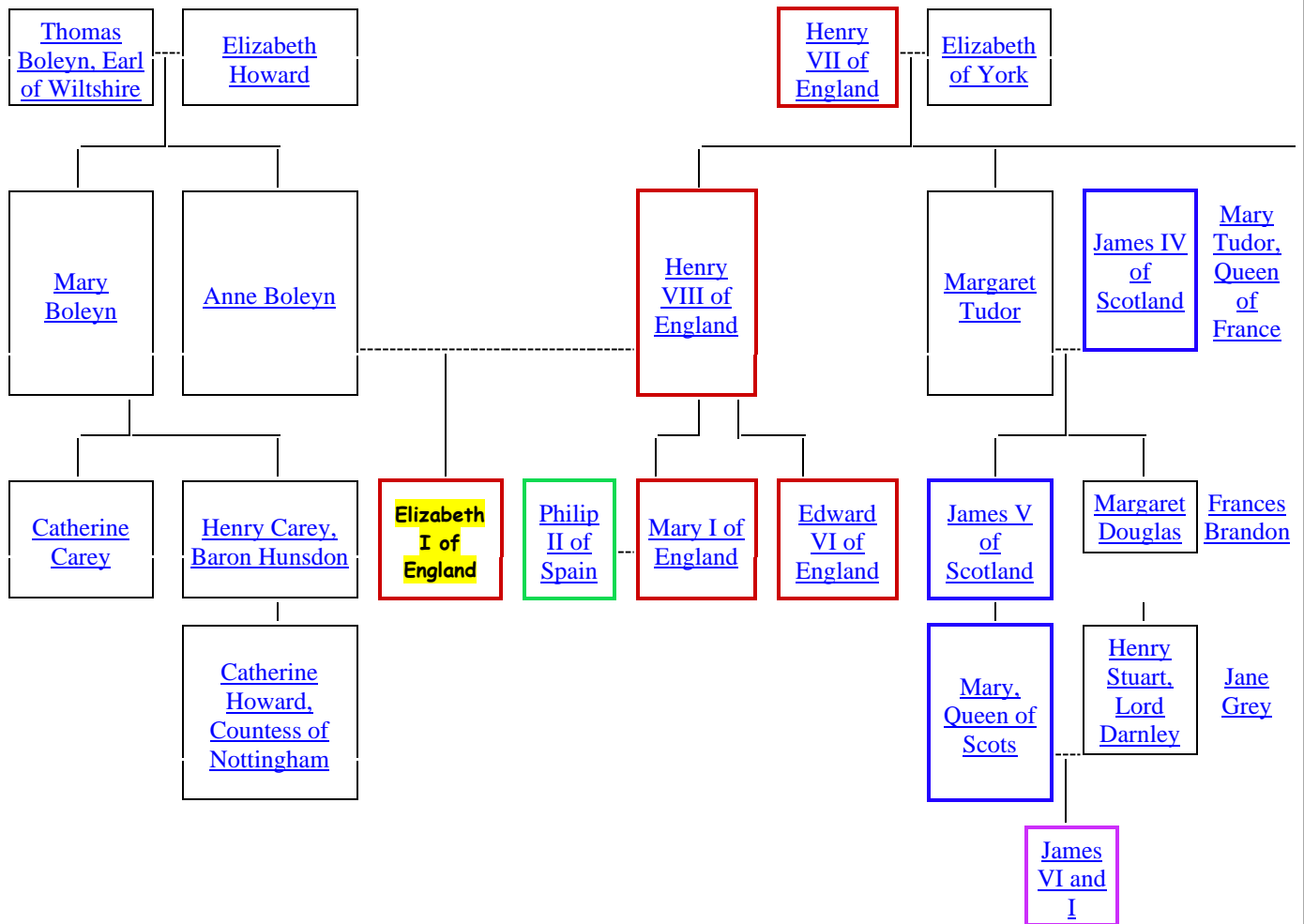
"Precisian" being the term used by Parker for his opponents on the issue of clerical dress.



# Family tree

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elizabeth\\_I](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elizabeth_I)

## Elizabeth's Family Tree



## Elizabeth I's monarchy

Rule of a 'weak and feeble' woman?

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/resources/elizabeth-monarchy/>

Also visit the Web Link:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zg7d8hv#z967qfr>

## Teachers' notes

This collection of documents introduces students and teachers to the reign of Elizabeth I through the original State Papers held at The National Archives. They have been selected and introduced by eminent historian of the period, Tracy Borman. Students and teachers can use the documents to develop their own questions and explore their own lines of historical enquiry on different aspects of Elizabeth's reign including the marriage question and succession, her style of monarchy, religious and foreign policy, or her relationship with Mary, Queen of Scots.

The documents offer students a chance to develop their powers of evaluation and analysis and support their course work. Alternatively, teachers may wish to use the collection to develop their own resources or encourage students to 'curate' their own 'exhibition' of the most significant sources on the topic. All documents are supported with some contextual information. Transcripts are provided and more difficult vocabulary is explained in square brackets.



### **Elizabeth I - Queen of England | Biography | Documentary**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3bWTeaMET0Y> [48:20]

Elizabeth I - Queen of England - In an era dominated by men, Queen Elizabeth I was the only woman. She ruled England for 45 years, laying the foundation for the British Empire, and when she died in 1603 she gave her name to an entire epoch: the Elizabethan Age.

Elizabeth I - Queen of England (2013)

Director: Michael Löseke, Christian Twente

Writers: Uwe Kersken, Cristina Trebbi

Stars: Marleen Lohse, Gerrit Hamann, Sami Loris

Genre: Documentary, Biography, Drama

Country: Germany

Language: English Release

Date: November 30, 2013 (Germany)



### Synopsis:

In an era dominated by men, Queen Elizabeth I was the only woman. She ruled England for 45 years, laying the foundation for the British Empire, and when she died in 1603 she gave her name to an entire epoch: the Elizabethan Age.

Nobody would have thought this possible when she was younger - least of all herself. Elizabeth was born in a period when the idea of a woman on the throne was considered a disaster, and she was regarded as a "bastard whore" by her opponents. Henry VIII had divorced his first wife, Catherine of Aragon, and married Anne Boleyn, a lady from the court; this illicit divorce caused the rift with the Catholic Church. When Anne Boleyn gave birth to Princess Elizabeth on 7 September 1533, the king was hugely disappointed: all his efforts had been designed to ensure a male heir. He didn't even attend the christening.

Anne Boleyn didn't last long: after several miscarriages Henry accused her of adultery and had her beheaded. Shortly afterwards he married for the third time, and Jane Seymour finally bore him a son. She was to be succeeded by three more wives.

Elizabeth had an excellent education, mastering foreign languages, music, poetry and philosophy. She was also taught embroidery, which she hated: she would rather go riding. She was extremely fond of hunting, archery and dancing, and she did everything she could to make up for the fact that she was "only" a girl.

After the death of Henry VIII his only son Edward VI is ascended to the throne. But Edward was weak and died of consumption at the age of 16. Henry's eldest daughter Mary, from his marriage to Catherine of Aragon, was crowned queen, but there was much resentment against her in England: she was half Spanish, she was Catholic, and soon people were calling her Bloody Mary. Mary, who had her half-sister Elizabeth imprisoned briefly on charges of treason, only reigned for five years before being succeeded by Elizabeth.

The task facing the new Queen was formidable: the country was torn by religious conflict, the Treasury was empty, and the idea of an unmarried queen outraged many people. But Elizabeth quickly realised that she enjoyed ruling alone, and that if she chose a husband, whether an English nobleman or a foreign prince, it might prompt a struggle for power. Another problem was Mary Queen of Scots, her cousin; Catholics regarded her as the rightful heir.

When evidence emerged, that Mary was planning treason, there was no alternative, and she was beheaded.

Elizabeth's greatest day came when the Spanish Armada sailed against England in May 1588. The English fleet defeated the most powerful navy in the world, thus establishing the foundation of Elizabeth's myth. She died aged 69, unmarried and with no successors. It was the son of her bitter rival Mary Stuart who ascended to the throne as James I. Elizabeth was the last of the Tudor monarchs.

## Annotated Bibliography

### Queen Elizabeth I of England (b. 1533, r. 1558 - d. 1603)

[https://departments.kings.edu/womens\\_history/oldpgs/oelizabeth.html](https://departments.kings.edu/womens_history/oldpgs/oelizabeth.html)

Born in 1533 to Henry VIII and his second wife, [Anne Boleyn](#), she was Queen of England from 1558 to her death in 1603. She inherited the throne after the death of her half-sister, [Queen "Bloody" Mary Tudor](#). Her reign is often called the Elizabethan or "Golden Age" because it was a time period of great advancement and achievement in England. She has been called an outstanding politician, orator, tactician, and musician. Elizabeth's reign was marked by her effective use of Parliament and the Privy Council, a small advisory body of the important state officials, and by the development of legal institutions in English counties. During her reign, Elizabeth unified a Protestant England against the Catholic Spanish and defeated the Spanish armada in 1588. She was responsible for English exploration of the New World and the flourishing of the economy, making England a world power. Her reign was also noted for the English Renaissance, an outpouring of poetry and drama. Elizabeth's court also became a center for poets, musicians, writers, and scholars.

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**Collins, Gail. "Just Look How Well She Governs." *The New York Times Magazine*. 18 April 1999, 97.**

This article is written to give a realistic view of Queen Elizabeth I. It writes of her as neither the most influential nor the most inspirational leader, but probably the millennium's best all-around figure. This article also focuses on the issues she faced while reigning, such as her dislike for religious extremism, the horror at the cost of war, and a strong interest in balanced budgets. This article is very useful in learning about the struggles and achievements of Queen Elizabeth I.

McGeary, Johanna. "Queen Elizabeth I." *Time*. 31 December 1999, 162-65.

This article gives a short, to-the-point biography of Queen Elizabeth I. It also focuses on Elizabeth's refusal to marry due to the fact that she did not want to give up power. The article states that as a ruler Elizabeth faced many issues such as the financial situation of England and the Catholic threat. This article is very brief but is also very descriptive of Elizabeth's life. It is recommended for those who already have knowledge about Queen Elizabeth I

Woodward, Jennifer. "Images of a Dead Queen." *History Today*. Nov 1997, 18-23.

This article focuses on the funeral of Queen Elizabeth I. The author examines how visual images of the dead Queen played a key role in her funeral. The author writes about the statue of the Queen during the funeral procession, which directed the collective emotional response back toward the dead Elizabeth and was deliberately used to create an impression of community feeling. Also included in this article is the way in which the funeral ritual was used to smooth the succession process.

U-X\_L Biographies. "Elizabeth I." *Gale Group*.

<<http://www.galegroup.com/freresrc/womenhst/elizabe.htm>> (November 17, 2000).

This website includes a very narrow biography of Queen Elizabeth's life. It focuses on her family history and how Queen Elizabeth came to power and also the conflicts she faced while on the throne. This article also contains information on the why Elizabeth's reign is best remembered for extraordinary achievements.

Jokinen, Anniina. "Elizabeth I." *Luminarium*. (27 Sept. 2000)

<<http://www.luminarium.org/renlit/eliza.htm/>> (2000).

This website provides a complete biography of Elizabeth's life. It is very informative about her life and her works. It also contains a collection of essays and articles about Elizabeth. There are also links to an image gallery and additional sources. This website is recommended for those who are inexperienced about Queen Elizabeth I.



## Elizabeth I: Tudor Queen (2023)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RbGZTedAA54> [42:40]

A woman in a man's world.

Though strong-willed, intelligent and passionate, Queen Elizabeth I is keenly aware that her life is in constant peril.

With her died the Tudor dynasty, but the changes she made to politics and parliament show the beginnings of the conception of the England that we know and love today.

# Queen Elizabeth I

## Looking at the Virgin Queen's Accomplishments 450 Years Later

<https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2008/11/17/queen-elizabeth-i-looking-at-the-virgin-queens-accomplishments-450-years-later>

"450 years ago today, Elizabeth I ushered in England's Elizabethan age."

Four hundred fifty years ago today, at age 25 and surrounded by enemies, Britain's Queen Elizabeth I ascended to the throne. From politics to art to religion, the world has never been the same. Famously, it was under the Tudor queen that England defeated Spain, establishing itself as a great power in Europe. It was Elizabeth's hand that re-established the Protestant church in England, introducing the same moderate Anglicanism still followed in England today. And it was in the Elizabethan "Golden Age" that poetry, plays, painting, and music flourished, led by names like Shakespeare, Marlowe, and Bacon. But her reign also influenced lands far beyond Britain. She encouraged expansion, and permitted establishment of the first English colony in North America, along with the creation of the British East India Company—the joint-stock company that eventually would colonize India. To understand a bit more about this larger-than-life historical figure, *U.S. News* spoke with popular British historian Alison Weir. Weir has written two novels and five history texts on the Tudor dynasty, including two books focused on Queen Elizabeth I, the virgin queen. Her historical novel about the queen, *The Lady Elizabeth*, was released in trade paperback November 4. *Excerpts:*

**In many ways, it's surprising that Elizabeth survived to see the day when her older sister, Queen Mary, would die and she would inherit the throne. After all, her father, Henry VIII, had annulled his marriage to her mother, Anne Boleyn, before ordering her beheading, making Elizabeth technically illegitimate; Elizabeth was a Protestant, while Mary—along with most of Europe—was Catholic; and she had a potent rival for the throne in her also-Catholic cousin Mary Queen of Scots. Where did she get the survival skills that enabled her to get the throne, not to mention hold on to it for 45 years?**

She inherited her courage and her mental strength from both her parents. Anne Boleyn was described as brave as a lion, and people admired her courage on the scaffold. Elizabeth inherited that. She also inherited Henry VIII's strength of character, and his toughness, and a ruthless streak. She was no shrinking violet.

I also think that her experiences honed her. She lost her mother at an early age in dreadful circumstances. Then there were her poor stepmothers. She saw one of them [Catherine Howard, Henry's fifth wife] executed. And in her brother Edward's reign, she was the subject of scandal when she was engaged in unscrupulous acts with Thomas



Seymour. He ended up being executed. She ended up being interrogated by the council—and holding her own at the age of 15.

During her sister's reign, she wound up in the Tower of London because she was suspected of complicity in a plot against the queen. There's no evidence to connect her with it. The jury's still out on whether or not she was actually involved. But she kept her counsel; she would not reveal anything. In the end, they had to release her for lack of evidence. Then she endured a year under house arrest. But during the three months in the Tower, she expected to be beheaded daily. That does something to you, I think. And she was imprisoned in the same room her mother had been imprisoned in.

### **How did she react to the news that she was finally queen?**

She knew it was coming. Her sister Mary Tudor had been ill for some time, and it was known to be [terminal]. But even when someone's dying and you expect them to die, it's still a shock. When she was told she was queen, she was sitting, reading history, under a tree at the great park at Hatfield. She'd seen a constant stream of courtiers wending their way along the road to the great house. She probably thought not much more of it. Then she realized they were approaching her. She stood up to greet them. When they told her she was queen, and fell to their knees before her, she too fell to her knees. She said in Latin, "This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes." But she couldn't speak at first. You can imagine the incredibly emotional moment for her.

### **What were the largest issues she faced?**

There were two crucial issues: religion and the succession. England had had a turbulent time since the Reformation of the 1530s, when Henry VIII had broken with Rome and declared himself head of the English church (and that was a Catholic church). His son Edward VI, who succeeded him in 1547, was a minor, but under the Protestant government that ruled for him, England became a Protestant nation. Then Mary Tudor came to the throne in 1553. She reverted to Rome. Heresy laws were revived, and Mary burned 300 Protestants. Then, of course, there was the matter of the Tudor succession. She was the last one.

### **What was the most ruthless thing Elizabeth ever did as queen?**

For years, she had the problem with Mary Queen of Scots, her cousin, who claimed to be the rightful queen of England. She had her shut up for 19 years. Mary became the subject of many plots to depose Elizabeth. They couldn't pin anything down on her, but finally they did with the Babington plot. These young Catholic gentlemen, who had chivalrously sworn to put the "rightful" queen, Mary, on the throne, were all apprehended and tortured. Elizabeth felt that even the punishment of hanging, drawing, and quartering—the normal one for traitors—was not sufficient. So these men were hanged, cut down half dead, castrated and disemboweled. Then their heads were cut off, their bodies quartered, and their heads were displayed up on poles above cities and towns and on London Bridge. Usually public executioners would wait for the men to be dead before cutting them down, but Elizabeth ordered them to suffer the full punishment.

### **What was the worst scandal that Elizabeth was involved in?**

The worst one was when Robert Dudley's wife, Amy Robsart, was found at the foot of a flight of stairs with her neck broken—less than two years into his relationship with Elizabeth. He'd come to court, he'd supported her in her sister's reign, she made him a

master of horse. They were very close. Gossip and scandal were rife. People were speculating endlessly as to what the nature of their relationship was, if he would have his wife murdered so he could marry the queen—and then suddenly, his wife is found dead. Can you imagine the scandal? It was a nightmare. **There has always been a great deal of speculation over why Elizabeth didn't get married. What do you think were the most likely reasons for her becoming the "Virgin Queen"?**

She had a pathological fear of marriage. And she said she would never divulge her reasons for that to a single soul. She was under a lot of pressure to marry, as you can imagine. Her councilors, all male, all felt that the queen should get married, and that she should be preoccupied with bearing children and having a husband to rule in her name. Well, she wasn't having any of that. She once said to Robert Dudley, who wanted to marry her, "I will but have one mistress here, and no master." **What was Elizabeth's greatest achievement?**

What's remarkable is that this woman inherited a kingdom that was virtually bankrupt. She came to the throne in the eyes of most of Europe—Catholic Europe—as a bastard, a heretic, and a usurper. And she wasn't the rightful queen. Mary Queen of Scots should be on the throne. And 45 years later, she died, leaving England stable and much better off financially than it had been. She was also in a position of much greater respect and good status within Christendom. That is an incredible achievement, considering she is a woman. This is a male-dominated age. The only example England had had before of a female ruler was her sister, Mary. And that was a total disaster. Elizabeth overcame the contemporary prejudice and fears about female government, and she showed that she had incredible strength.

(☺)(☺)(☺)(☺)(☺)

## Spanish Armada

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish\\_Armada](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_Armada)















### Spanish Armada

Part of the [Anglo-Spanish War \(1585–1604\)](#) and the [Eighty Years' War](#)



Route of the Spanish Armada

<b>Date</b>	July–August 1588
<b>Location</b>	<a href="#">English Channel</a> and the <a href="#">North Sea</a>
<b>Result</b>	Anglo-Dutch victory <sup>[1][2][3]</sup>

Belligerents	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <a href="#">England</a></li> <li> <a href="#">Dutch Republic</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <a href="#">Spain</a></li> <li> <a href="#">Portugal</a></li> </ul>
Commanders and leaders	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <a href="#">Charles Howard</a></li> <li> <a href="#">Francis Drake</a></li> <li> <a href="#">John Hawkins</a></li> <li> <a href="#">Justinus van Nassau</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <a href="#">7th Duke of Medina Sidonia</a></li> <li> <a href="#">Juan de Recalde †</a></li> <li> <a href="#">Miguel de Oquendo †</a></li> <li> <a href="#">Diego de Medrano †</a></li> <li> <a href="#">Pedro de Valdés</a> </li> </ul>
Strength	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>34 warships</li> <li>163 armed merchant vessels (30 more than 200 tons)</li> <li>30 <a href="#">flyboats</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Total</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>197 ships</li> <li>16,000 men</li> </ul>	<p><b>Armada</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24 warships</li> <li>44 armed merchantmen</li> <li>38 auxiliary vessels</li> <li>31 supply vessels</li> <li>2,431 artillery pieces</li> <li>10,138 sailors</li> <li>19,315 soldiers (90% Spaniards, 10% Portuguese)</li> </ul> <p><b>Spanish Netherlands</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>31,800 soldiers</li> <li>170 barges</li> </ul> <p><b>Total</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>55,000 men</li> <li>137 ships</li> </ul>
Casualties and losses	
<p><b>English Channel actions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No ships lost</li> </ul> <p><b>Battle of Gravelines:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>50–100 dead</li> <li>400 wounded</li> <li>8 <a href="#">fireships</a> burnt</li> </ul> <p><b>Disease:</b> 2,000–3,000 dead</p>	<p><b>English Channel actions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 galleons captured</li> <li>397 captured</li> </ul> <p><b>Battle of Gravelines:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More than 600 dead</li> <li>800 wounded</li> <li>Five ships sunk or captured</li> </ul> <p><b>Overall:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. 44 ships lost (10 scuttled)</li> <li>11,000</li> <li>20,000 dead</li> </ul>

The **Spanish Armada** (often known as **Invincible Armada**, or the **Enterprise of England**, Spanish: *Grande y Felicísima Armada*, lit. 'Great and Most Fortunate Navy') was a [Spanish](#) fleet that sailed from [Lisbon](#) in late May 1588, commanded by [Alonso de Guzmán, Duke of Medina Sidonia](#), an aristocrat without previous naval experience appointed by [Philip II of Spain](#). His orders were to sail up the [English Channel](#), join with the [Duke of Parma](#) in [Flanders](#), and escort an invasion force that would land in [England](#) and overthrow [Elizabeth I](#). Its purpose was to reinstate [Catholicism](#) in

England, end support for the [Dutch Republic](#), and prevent attacks by English and Dutch [privateers](#) against Spanish interests in the [Americas](#).

The Spanish were opposed by an English fleet based in [Plymouth](#). Faster and more maneuverable than the larger Spanish [galleons](#), its ships were able to attack the Armada as it sailed up the Channel. Several subordinates advised Medina Sidonia to anchor in [the Solent](#) and occupy the [Isle of Wight](#), but he refused to deviate from his instructions to join with Parma. Although the Armada reached [Calais](#) largely intact, while awaiting communication from Parma, it was attacked at night by English [fire ships](#) and forced to scatter. The Armada suffered further losses in the ensuing Battle of Gravelines and was in danger of running aground on the Dutch coast when the wind changed, allowing it to escape into the [North Sea](#). Pursued by the English, the Spanish ships returned home via [Scotland](#) and [Ireland](#). Up to 24 ships were wrecked along the way before the rest managed to get home. Among the factors contributing to the defeat and withdrawal of the Armada were bad weather conditions and the better employment of naval guns and battle tactics by the English.

The expedition was the largest engagement of the [undeclared Anglo-Spanish War](#). The following year, England organized a similar large-scale campaign against Spain, known as the "[English Armada](#)", and sometimes called the "counter-Armada of 1589", which failed. Three further Spanish armadas were sent against England and Ireland in [1596](#), [1597](#), and [1601](#), but these likewise ended in failure.

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## Tudor conquest of Ireland

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tudor\\_conquest\\_of\\_Ireland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tudor_conquest_of_Ireland)

### Tudor Conquest of Ireland

Part of the [European wars of religion](#) and the [English Reformation](#)



18th-century depiction of the [Treaty of Mellifont](#), which marked the start of English rule over all of Ireland

<b>Date</b>	1536–1603
<b>Location</b>	Ireland
<b>Result</b>	English victory <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Gaelic Ireland</a> annexed by <a href="#">Tudors</a></li><li>• Hegemony of the <a href="#">New English</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Catholic Church in Ireland</a> outlawed</li><li>• <a href="#">Treaty of Mellifont</a></li></ul>



Belligerents	
 <a href="#">England</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <a href="#">Lordship of Ireland</a> (until 1542)</li> <li> <a href="#">Kingdom of Ireland</a> (from 1542)</li> </ul>	 <a href="#">Gaelic Ireland</a>  <a href="#">Spain</a>
Commanders and leaders	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Henry Sidney</a></li> <li><a href="#">Thomas Radclyffe</a></li> <li><a href="#">Leonard Grey</a></li> <li><a href="#">Richard Bingham</a></li> <li><a href="#">William Drury</a></li> <li><a href="#">Arthur Grey</a></li> <li><a href="#">William Pelham</a></li> <li><a href="#">William FitzWilliam</a></li> <li><a href="#">John Perrot</a></li> <li><a href="#">John Norreys</a></li> <li><a href="#">Walter Raleigh</a></li> <li><a href="#">Humphrey Gilbert</a></li> <li><a href="#">George Carew</a></li> <li><a href="#">Arthur Chichester</a></li> <li><a href="#">Henry Docwra</a></li> <li><a href="#">Charles Blount</a></li> <li><a href="#">Walter Devereaux</a></li> <li><a href="#">Henry Bagenal</a></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Gaels:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Aodh Mór Ó Néill</a></li> <li><a href="#">Aodh Ruadh Ó Domhnaill</a></li> <li><a href="#">Aodh Mag Uidhir</a></li> <li><a href="#">Ruairí Óg Ó Mórdha</a></li> <li><a href="#">Fiach Mac Aodha Ó Broin</a></li> <li><a href="#">Fínghin Mac Cárthaigh</a></li> <li><a href="#">Domhnall Cam Ó Súilleabháin Bhéara</a></li> <li><a href="#">Domhnall Ó Briain</a></li> <li><a href="#">Somhairle Buidhe Mac Domhnaill</a></li> <li><a href="#">Brian Óg na Samhthach Ó Ruairc</a></li> <li><a href="#">Gráinne Ní Mháille</a></li> </ul> <p><b><u>FitzGerald:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">James FitzMaurice FitzGerald</a></li> <li><a href="#">Silken Thomas FitzGerald</a></li> <li><a href="#">Gerald FitzGerald</a></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Spanish generals:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Juan del Águila</a></li> </ul>

The **Tudor conquest** (or **reconquest**) of **Ireland** took place during the 16th century under the [Tudor dynasty](#), which ruled the [Kingdom of England](#). The [Anglo-Normans](#) had [conquered swathes of Ireland](#) in the late 12th century, bringing it under [English rule](#). In the 14th century, the effective [area of English rule](#) shrank markedly, and from then most of Ireland was held by native [Gaelic chiefdoms](#). Following a [failed rebellion](#) by the [Earl of Kildare](#) in the 1530s, the English Crown set about restoring its authority. [Henry VIII](#) of England was made "King of Ireland" by the [Crown of Ireland Act 1542](#). The conquest involved assimilating the Gaelic nobility by way of "[surrender and regrant](#)"; the confiscation and [colonisation \('plantation'\) of lands](#) with settlers from Britain; imposing English law and language; banning [Catholicism](#), [dissolving the monasteries](#) and making [Anglican Protestantism](#) the state religion.

The Tudor policies in Ireland sparked the [Desmond Rebellions](#) (1569–1573, 1579–1583) and the [Nine Years' War](#) (1594–1603).<sup>[1]</sup> Despite [Spain sending an armada](#) to support the Irish Catholics during the [Anglo-Spanish War \(1585–1604\)](#), by 1603 the entire country was under [English rule](#). The [Flight of the Earls](#) in 1607 largely completed the

The conquest technically extended into the [Stuart period](#), as the [Treaty of Mellifont](#), which ended the Nine Years' War, was signed mere days after the death of [Elizabeth I](#).



## Ireland at the beginning of the Tudor period.

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# Virginity

Elizabeth's unmarried status inspired a cult of virginity related to [that of the Virgin Mary](#). In poetry and portraiture, she was depicted as a virgin, a goddess, or both, not as a normal woman. At first, only Elizabeth made a virtue of her ostensible virginity: in 1559, she told the Commons, "And, in the end, this shall be for me sufficient, that a marble stone shall declare that a queen, having reigned such a time, lived and died a virgin". Later on, poets and writers took up the theme and developed an [iconography](#) that exalted Elizabeth. Public tributes to the Virgin by 1578 acted as a coded assertion of opposition to the queen's marriage negotiations with the Duke of Alençon. Ultimately, Elizabeth would insist she was married to her kingdom and subjects, under divine protection. In 1599, she spoke of "all my husbands, my good people".



***The Procession Picture, c. 1600, showing Elizabeth I borne along by her courtiers***

This claim of virginity was not universally accepted. Catholics accused Elizabeth of engaging in "filthy lust" that symbolically defiled the nation along with her body. [Henry](#)

[IV of France](#) said that one of the great questions of Europe was "whether Queen Elizabeth was a maid or no".

A central issue, when it comes to the question of Elizabeth's virginity, was whether the Queen ever consummated her love affair with Robert Dudley. In 1559, she had Dudley's bedchambers moved next to her own apartments. In 1561, she was mysteriously bedridden with an illness that caused her body to swell.

In 1587, a young man calling himself [Arthur Dudley](#) was arrested on the coast of Spain under suspicion of being a spy. The man claimed to be the illegitimate son of Elizabeth and Robert Dudley, with his age being consistent with birth during the 1561 illness. He was taken to [Madrid](#) for investigation, where he was examined by [Francis Englefield](#), a Catholic aristocrat exiled to Spain and secretary to King Philip II. Three letters exist today describing the interview, detailing what Arthur proclaimed to be the story of his life, from birth in the royal palace to the time of his arrival in Spain. However, this failed to convince the Spaniards: Englefield admitted to King Philip that Arthur's "claim at present amounts to nothing", but suggested that "he should not be allowed to get away, but [...] kept very secure." The King agreed, and Arthur was never heard from again. Modern scholarship dismisses the story's basic premise as "impossible", and asserts that Elizabeth's life was so closely observed by contemporaries that she could not have hidden a pregnancy.

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Portrait commemorating the defeat of the [Spanish Armada](#), depicted in the background. Elizabeth's hand rests on the globe, symbolising her international power.  
One of three known versions of the "[Armada Portrait](#)".



# Death



Elizabeth's death depicted by Paul Delaroche, 1828

Elizabeth's senior adviser, Lord Burghley, died on 4 August 1598. His political mantle passed to his son Robert, who soon became the leader of the government. One task he addressed was to prepare the way for a [smooth succession](#). Since Elizabeth would never name her successor, Robert Cecil was obliged to proceed in secret. He therefore entered into a [coded negotiation](#) with [James VI of Scotland](#), who had a strong but unrecognised claim. Cecil coached the impatient James to humour Elizabeth and "secure the heart of the highest, to whose sex and quality nothing is so improper as either needless expostulations or over much curiosity in her own actions". The advice worked. James's tone delighted Elizabeth, who responded: "So trust I that you will not doubt but that your last letters are so acceptably taken as my thanks cannot be lacking for the same, but yield them to you in grateful sort". In historian J. E. Neale's view, Elizabeth may not have declared her wishes openly to James, but she made them known with "unmistakable if veiled phrases".



Elizabeth's funeral cortège, 1603, with banners of her royal ancestors



The Queen's health remained fair until the autumn of 1602, when a series of deaths among her friends plunged her into a severe depression. In February 1603, the death of [Catherine Carey, Countess of Nottingham](#), the niece of her cousin and close friend [Lady Knollys](#), came as a particular blow. In March, Elizabeth fell sick and remained in a "settled and unremovable melancholy", and sat motionless on a cushion for hours on end. When Robert Cecil told her that she must go to bed, she snapped: "Must is not a word to use to princes, little man." She died on 24 March 1603 at [Richmond Palace](#), between two and three in the morning. A few hours later, Cecil and the council set their plans in motion and proclaimed James king of England.

While it has become normative to record Elizabeth's death as occurring in 1603, following [English calendar reform](#) in the 1750s, at the time England observed New Year's Day on 25 March, commonly known as [Lady Day](#). Thus Elizabeth died on the last day of the year 1602 in the old calendar. The modern convention is to use the old style calendar for the day and month while using the new style calendar for the year.



**Elizabeth as shown on her tomb at Westminster Abbey**

Elizabeth's coffin was carried downriver at night to [Whitehall](#), on a barge lit with torches.<sup>[210]</sup> At her funeral on 28 April, the coffin was taken to [Westminster Abbey](#) on a [hearse](#) drawn by four horses hung with black velvet. In the words of the chronicler [John Stow](#):

Westminster was surcharged with multitudes of all sorts of people in their streets, houses, windows, leads and gutters, that came out to see the [obsequy](#), and when they beheld her statue lying upon the coffin, there was such a general sighing, groaning and weeping as the like hath not been seen or known in the memory of man.

Elizabeth was interred in Westminster Abbey, in a tomb shared with her half-sister, Mary I. The Latin inscription on their tomb, "*Regno consortes & urna, hic obdormimus Elizabetha et Maria sorores, in spe resurrectionis*", translates to "Consorts in realm and tomb, here we sleep, Elizabeth and Mary, sisters, in hope of



# Legacy

Elizabeth was lamented by many of her subjects, but others were relieved at her death. Expectations of King James started high but then declined. By the 1620s, there was a nostalgic revival of the cult of Elizabeth. Elizabeth was praised as a heroine of the Protestant cause and the ruler of a golden age. James was depicted as a Catholic sympathiser, presiding over a corrupt court. The triumphalist image that Elizabeth had cultivated towards the end of her reign, against a background of factionalism and military and economic difficulties, was taken at face value and her reputation inflated. [Godfrey Goodman](#), Bishop of Gloucester, recalled: "When we had experience of a Scottish government, the Queen did seem to revive. Then was her memory much magnified." Elizabeth's reign became idealised as a time when crown, church and parliament had worked in constitutional balance.

The picture of Elizabeth painted by her Protestant admirers of the early 17th century has proved lasting and influential. Her memory was also revived during the [Napoleonic Wars](#), when the nation again found itself on the brink of invasion. In the [Victorian era](#), the Elizabethan legend was adapted to the imperial ideology of the day, and in the mid-20th century, Elizabeth was a romantic symbol of the national resistance to foreign threat. Historians of that period, such as [J. E. Neale](#) (1934) and [A. L. Rowse](#) (1950), interpreted Elizabeth's reign as a golden age of progress. Neale and Rowse also idealised the Queen personally: she always did everything right; her more unpleasant traits were ignored or explained as signs of stress.

Recent historians, however, have taken a more complicated view of Elizabeth. Her reign is famous for the defeat of the Armada, and for successful raids against the Spaniards, such as those on Cádiz in 1587 and 1596, but some historians point to military failures on land and at sea. In Ireland, Elizabeth's forces ultimately prevailed, but their tactics stain her record. Rather than as a brave defender of the Protestant nations against Spain and the Habsburgs, she is more often regarded as cautious in her foreign policies. She offered very limited aid to foreign Protestants and failed to provide her commanders with the funds to make a difference abroad.

Elizabeth established an English church that helped shape a national identity and remains in place today. Those who praised her later as a Protestant heroine overlooked her refusal to drop all practices of Catholic origin from the Church of England. Historians note that in her day, strict Protestants regarded the [Acts of Settlement and Uniformity of 1559](#) as a compromise. In fact, Elizabeth believed that faith was personal and did not wish, as [Francis Bacon](#) put it, to "make windows into men's hearts and secret thoughts".

Though Elizabeth followed a largely defensive foreign policy, her reign raised England's status abroad. "She is only a woman, only mistress of half an island," marvelled [Pope Sixtus V](#), "and yet she makes herself feared by Spain, by France, by [the Empire](#), by all". Under Elizabeth, the nation gained a new self-confidence and sense of sovereignty, as [Christendom](#) fragmented. Elizabeth was the first Tudor to recognise that a monarch ruled by popular consent. She therefore always worked with parliament and advisers she could trust to tell her the truth—a style of government that her Stuart successors failed to follow. Some historians have called her lucky; she believed that God was protecting her. Priding herself on being "mere English", Elizabeth trusted in God, honest advice, and the love of her subjects for the success of her rule. In a prayer, she offered thanks to God that:

[At a time] when wars and seditions with grievous persecutions have vexed almost all kings and countries round about me, my reign hath been peacable, and my realm a receptacle to thy afflicted Church. The love of my people hath appeared firm, and the devices of my enemies frustrate.

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# Reformation

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reformation>



The International Monument to the Reformation,  
a statue erected in Geneva in 1909 depicting William Farel,  
John Calvin, Theodore Beza, and John Knox,  
four leaders of the Reformed tradition of Protestantism

The **Reformation**, also known as the **Protestant Reformation** and the **European Reformation**, was a major [theological](#) movement in [Western Christianity](#) in 16th-century [Europe](#) that posed a religious and political challenge to the [papacy](#) and the authority of the [Catholic Church](#). Following the start of the [Renaissance](#), the Reformation marked the beginning of [Protestantism](#). It is considered one of the events that signified the end of the [Middle Ages](#) and the beginning of the [early modern period](#) in Europe. The end of the Reformation era is disputed among modern scholars.

Prior to [Martin Luther](#) and other [Protestant Reformers](#), there were [earlier reform movements](#) within Western Christianity. The Reformation, however, is usually considered to have started with the publication of the [Ninety-five Theses](#), authored by Martin Luther in 1517. Four years later, in January 1521, Luther was [excommunicated](#) by [Pope Leo X](#). In May 1521, at the [Diet of Worms](#), Luther was condemned by the [Holy Roman Empire](#), which officially banned citizens from defending or propagating Luther's ideas. Luther survived after being declared an outlaw due to the protection of Elector [Frederick the Wise](#).

In general, the Reformers argued that [salvation in Christianity](#) was a completed status [based on faith in Jesus alone](#) and not a process that could involve [good works](#), as in the Catholic view. Protestantism also introduced new [ecclesiology](#). The spread of [Gutenberg's printing press](#) provided the means for the rapid dissemination of religious materials in the vernacular. The initial movement in Germany diversified, and nearby other reformers such as [Huldrych Zwingli](#) and [John Calvin](#) with different theologies arose.

The [Counter-Reformation](#) comprised the Catholic response to the Reformation, and largely affirmed Catholic positions that had been subject to critique by reformers.

# Selected Queen Elizabeth I Quotations

<https://www.thoughtco.com/queen-elizabeth-i-quotes-3530018>

- I will be as good unto ye as ever a Queen was unto her people. No will in me can lack, neither do I trust shall there lack any power. And persuade yourselves that for the safety and quietness of you all I will not spare if need be to spend my blood. - *to the Lord Mayor and London's people, before her coronation*
- I have already joined myself in marriage to a husband, namely the kingdom of England. - *to Parliament*
- Monarchs ought to put to death the authors and instigators of war, as their sworn enemies and as dangers to their states.
- For me, it will be enough that a marble stone should declare that a [queen](#) having reigned such a time, lived and died a virgin.
- I know I have the body but of a weak and feeble woman; but I have the heart and stomach of a king, and of a king of England, too.
- There is only one Christ, Jesus, one faith. All else is a dispute over trifles.
- I would rather go to any extreme than suffer anything that is unworthy of my reputation, or of that of my crown.
- I have the heart of a man, not a woman, and I am not afraid of anything.
- I do consider a multitude doth make rather discord and confusion than good counsel.
- A clear and innocent conscience fears nothing.
- Those who appear the most sanctified are the worst.
- It is a natural virtue incident to our sex to be pitiful of those that are afflicted.



- Though the sex to which I belong is considered weak you will nevertheless find me a rock that bends to no wind.
- Ye may have a greater prince, but ye shall never have a more loving prince.
- To be a king and wear a crown is a thing more glorious to them that see it than it is pleasant to them that bear it.
- A strength to harm is perilous in the hand of an ambitious head.
- *To the Earl of Oxford, who had returned after 7 years out of England in shame because of flatulence in front of the Queen: "My Lord, I had forgot the fart!"*

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